

Easter Lilies.



MY EASTER lilies, pure and fair and sweet. I know that hidden in your hearts of gold.

Still lies the secret you each year repeat— An old-told story that can never grow old— Of bells that ring, Of bells that ring, As o'er the earth now steals the spring.

I know not why it is, but I agree— The story seems more wonderful strange and new; I bend above my lily buds to hear Them whisper softly what I know is true— That winter's past; That spring comes fast; That life and joy are here at last!

The story that the Easter lilies tell Brings light and peace to the whole world today; And hearts bowed down by grief and sadness swell In songs of praise, and even doubters pray. Men call us brave; For, strong to save, Our King has triumphed o'er the grave!

Ring out, O lily bells! Gone is all gloom! All nature sings at this glad Easter tide. We see no more the shadow of the tomb; To us the pearl gates swing open wide! Death is in vain; He who dies, dies again;—Virginia Van de Water, in Harper's Bazar.

THE EASTER CARD.



HERE are a great many follies and pitifulnesses in this world," said Helen Strother.

"Which in particular are you thinking of this morning?" asked her brother Charley.

"I was thinking of Miss Martha Dunbar, and what a life she leads, with all that tumult of nephews and nieces about her ears the whole time."

"Pretty stiff, to be sure. I can see the pity of it, but where is the folly? That strikes me as an extraordinary word in connection with Miss Martha. I thought she was painfully sensible."

"So she is. There is just the trouble. She gives her life to being sensible, and then isn't sensible enough not to make it painful to everybody who comes near her."

Charley nodded an energetic assent. "She certainly is a person you would rather admire at a distance."

"Yes, everybody feels so. And isn't it pitiful? Miss Martha is really making a great sacrifice, the kind that would bring tears to your eyes in a tract. She has given up her work that she loved, and has settled down entirely to the care of those children. They are nice children, but very much alike, and up to date all the old-fashioned, theoretical kind that Miss Martha has been imagining to herself for the last twenty years. They give her plenty to do. Keeping their clothes mended, and all those faces washed and hands clean isn't any sinecure, I can tell you."

"More like a manœuvre, isn't it?" inquired Charley, with a chuckle.

Helen looked doubtful whether to recognize this bit, but concluded she would, and then went on: "She does her duty by them very thoroughly and very raspingly, poor little midgets. I am afraid they are in a constant state of rebellion and disgust. You see, their own mother was so different; they are not accustomed to 'prunes, prisms, prisms' from morning to night."

"It must be pretty doleful for them, that's a fact," agreed Charley. "I should hate to live in the house with an incarnate strait-jacket myself."

"Miss Martha is too fond of righteous indignation," said Helen. "Mrs. Dunbar's righteousness took another form whenever it possibly could; and it worked lots better. But doesn't it seem tragic for a good, superior woman to be taking up her cross daily and denying herself just to make her own life and everybody else's uncomfortable?"

"Are you going to write her an anonymous letter about it?" "I wish I could—I wish I could do something. Isn't there anything you can suggest?"

"Only the letter." "It was much later in the day that Charley's idle words came back into Helen's mind with some sort of seriousness. She was passing a counter loaded with Easter cards, of which one instantly caught her eye; it showed the open sepulcher and the sunlit morning and the budding spring, with the words: 'I am the Resurrection and the Life.'"

"How pretty," thought Helen, stopping to look. "I don't know when I have sent an Easter card; but I should like to send that. It is so sweet and hopeful and sunshiny; it might speak peace to anybody—even Miss Martha."

times; but finally put the picture, with one of her own cards, into an envelope, and directed it.

"There! What harm can it do, at any rate? And why shouldn't I follow an impulse when it comes, and have faith in an interpreter who can explain without footnotes?"

In Saturday night's mail the card went to Miss Martha. She admired it for a moment, her mind perhaps distracted a little by her surprise that a young girl should have remembered her and her wonder whether the sending of plain Easter cards were not a somewhat antiquated fashion. Then she proceeded to dispose of the matter by straightway writing a formal note of thanks, which was dispatched that same evening by her brother's office boy, and which made Helen, as she expressed it, feel "gratified."

The following afternoon Miss Martha was roused from the solid religious work she was reading by the sound of voices in the next room, the door into which had been left ajar. They were the voices of her eldest nephew and niece, Teddy and Grace, commenting on Helen's Easter card.

"Isn't it lovely?" Grace was saying, "and it isn't sorrowful a bit, even if it has got a grave in it."

"I don't like graves," responded Teddy, gruffly, "nor funerals, nor any of that. But it seems as if we were at such things all the time in this house."

"When I have a funeral," said Grace, "I want to have a nice one. If I can, that will be pleasant, you know, to remember me by." The little girl paused, and then added, in a lower tone: "Not like mother's."

"It was all Aunt Martha's fault," broke in Teddy, with quick indignation, "about mother's. Father didn't want it so. He just let her have her own way, because she was company and doing us a favor to come."

"And mother deserved a happy funeral," mourned poor Grace; "she was good and lovely, and just as Christian as could be. I wasn't right to bury her as if we couldn't feel any comfort

about it, and then never to talk of her any more, as if we'd like to forget her as soon as we could. If I'm a Christian when I die, I want them to let all the sun in and the air, and I want the singers to sing out loud, as if they knew I was going to Heaven to be glad forever and ever. And then everybody that loved me, I'd like them to say so to each other sometimes, and talk over the ways I used to have, and what I said. It isn't anybody's fault to be dead. Mother couldn't help dying when God wanted her to, even if she did leave four poor, young, helpless children behind her." And, anyway, I guess God can take care of us children for her."

"If Aunt Martha will let Him," said Teddy.

There was a moment's silence before he went on to ask, with some embarrassment: "But, I say, what makes you talk about if you're a Christian when you die? I thought you told mother you were going to be one, for certain."

"I wanted to; but I'm getting a good deal discouraged from the idea. It isn't a Christian to get so hot and angry in your mind till you jerk your buttons off, and slam doors and things, and do—"

"It's just Aunt Martha that makes you. She ought to be ashamed. I wonder how would she feel if, when she got to Heaven, she had to tell mother she had kept you away from going, when you meant to do it. She's always dinging it at us that she has to be responsible for our clothes and our manners, and if we aren't forever carrying pocket handkerchiefs around, and all the rest of it; I wonder how she'd like to be responsible for that?"

"I think it would be nice," said Grace, with a wistful little sigh, "if, when you were at home, it was easy to remember about Heaven—the way it was when mother was here. But maybe it's only mothers that can make it easy for you. Maybe aunts do the best they can; but maybe they don't know how."

"On Easter eve the fire all is quenched in every place. And fresh again from out the flint is fetched with solemn grace: The priest doth blow this against great dangers many one. A brande thereof doth every man with greedie minde take home. That when the fearwell storme appeares or tempest black arise. By lighting this safe may be from strokes of hurrican skies."—Ladies Home Journal.

Her Soliloquy. I love my little brother; He's a cunning, rosy elf; But with—somehow or other—That he could rock himself!

—Frederick D. Oppen, in St. Nicholas

his nurse's arms, dared the other nieces and nephews to follow her into the library; and they came, wondering.

"Children," began Miss Martha, stretching her hand out to Helen's Easter card, and setting it up in sight under the light of the lamp, "you all know what Easter means; but I think we ought to understand it better to-day than we ever have before, because of the dear little mother who was with us last year, but who is not here now."

None of them had ever heard such a falter in Miss Martha's firm tones before. At the sound Teddy slipped off the edge of his distant chair and drew closer. His aunt cleared her throat and went on: "All the hope and promise of Easter ought to be very sweet to us. It is because of that that we can think so peacefully of her lying dead in her grave; because we know that she is only waiting until the angel rolls away the stone, when she will rise again in the newness of the life everlasting."

Did the children understand all this? Perhaps not all. But I think they understood enough to warm their frozen little hearts; and they understood very well, indeed, when Miss Martha began to tell them of the long ago times when she and their mother were girls together, and how they had loved each other all their lives until death came. When the delightful, leisurely talk was over, and Miss Martha went away upstairs with sleeping Jack and the other little one, Grace crept close to Teddy, and laying her small hand somewhere near her heart, whispered: "Teddy, I've got the feeling of Easter right here, haven't you?"

Some months later, Charley Strother remarked to his sister: "It strikes me the Dunbars are running things in pretty smooth water of late. Have you noticed it?"

"Of course, and rejoiced. Grace told me yesterday that they had been having lovely times ever since Easter."

A TREATY of peace between Mexico and Guatemala has been signed. The latter country will pay an indemnity and make an apology.

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EX-CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM L. WILSON, of West Virginia, took the oath of office as postmaster-general on the 3d. Chief Justice Fuller appeared at the post office department and administered the oath in the presence of the principal officials of the department.

The president and his family have taken up their residence at Woodley and will make their home until their departure for Gray Gables for the summer. The president will visit the white house Tuesdays and Fridays to meet his cabinet.

It is stated by persons in a position to speak with authority that as soon as Venezuela is convinced Great Britain has finally decided not to arbitrate or settle the boundary dispute as suggested by the United States through Ambassador Bayard, the southern republic will resort to force.

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MISCELLANEOUS. A TERRIBLE shooting affair occurred near Morrison, Ok., between Cook, Bennett and a woman, whose name was not learned. It seems that the two men and the woman were claimants for the same quarter section of land and that Cook bought out the woman's interest and as he commenced to move into the woman's house a fight occurred and Cook was shot by Bennett through the head and he will die and the woman was shot through a leg. The woman used an ax on Bennett and inflicted serious wounds.

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In Pittsburgh, Pa., the fire-story mill house at Wainwright's brewery, collapsed. The weight of the grain stored in the upper floor, caused the disaster. The loss will be \$15,000. Everyone in the building escaped.

A few days ago a streak of ore was struck in the Golden Slipper mine, 2 miles from Hill City, S. D., and a test run of 49 pounds of rock gave returns of 49 ounces. The vein is a strong one, and gives promise of developing into another Holy Terror. The new discovery has added to the mining excitement now in progress in the southern hills.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Gleaned By Telegraph and Mail.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

PRESIDENT TRACY and Secretary Humphrey of the Republican National League, have issued a call for the next annual convention of the league to be held at Cleveland, O., June 13.

The ratio of representation will be six delegates-at-large from each state and territory, four from each congressional district and one from each Republican College league club.

The president on the 1st received a representative delegation of Chicagoans who called to invite him to attend the reception to be tendered to him and Mrs. Cleveland as an evidence of their appreciation of his steadfastness in regard to the currency. The president expressed to the delegation the gratification he felt at their call and the invitation they tendered, but gave no assurances of his acceptance, saying he could not tell what the state of public business might be.

GEN. OLIVER P. GOODENO, formerly a noted Missouri politician, was declared to be insane in a court at Washington on the 1st.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND has determined that an official interest in the Nicaragua canal shall be promptly made and the government commission to examine the route is to be sent there as soon as possible. Col. W. P. Craig-hill, U. S. A., has been selected for chairman. Lieutenant-Commander M. T. Endicott, U. S. N., is another member of the commission. The civilian member has not yet been appointed.

THE Colorado legislature closed a ninety days' session on the 1st. One of the most important measures sent to the governor was one which provides a bounty of \$1 on beet sugar raised in the state.

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WASHINGTON TALK.

The Reasons for an Extra Session of Congress Have Disappeared.

THE INCOME TAX DECISION.

A Story That the Supreme Court Had Voted the Income Tax Unconstitutional—An Increase in the National Bank Circulation.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—The talk of an extra session of congress has almost totally subsided, and the surface indications which a short time ago seemed to point to possible assembling of the Fifty-fourth congress before next December have disappeared. The treasury officials profess to be confident of the ability of the government to get along without further legislation, their confidence being based upon the apparent safety of the gold reserve, under the agreement with the syndicate with which the last bond deal was made. Nearly a month's trial of the conditions under which that deal was effected has proven, it is thought, that if the syndicate continues to play fair there need be no further apprehension of raids upon the gold reserve.

The probability of a heavy deficit in the revenues was consequently necessary for remedial legislation is declared to be unlikely, and thus another possible cause for an extra session has been removed. This shortage in the revenues was regarded as the most imminent cause for a probable extra session, and there are those who think that the menace has not been entirely removed, but that the treasury will find itself hard pushed for cash before the summer is past.

Politicians say that President Cleveland is very much relieved to have congress off his hands, and that he would regard the necessity for an extra session as a political misfortune at this time, and would postpone calling one till the last minute for that reason.

The Income Tax Decision. WASHINGTON, April 6.—An interesting story about the supreme court and the income tax was in circulation among the stock exchanges yesterday. It was that the supreme court had reached a decision by a vote of five to three to report the income tax unconstitutional, and had so informed the president. Whatever the decision may be, it is evident that the justices are having a good deal of trouble over the questions raised. If the court had been clearly for the law, the decision would have been delivered very promptly. There was every reason for prompt action if the law was to be sustained. The delay may be explained easily if the court is against the law. The treasury conditions are improving every day and will be better able to stand the shock of the loss of this anticipated revenue by the postponement of the announcement.

National Bank Circulation. WASHINGTON, April 6.—A striking increase in the secured circulation of the national banks has taken place during March as one of the results of the new issue of bonds and the greater activity in the money market. The circulation of secured bonds deposits has increased from \$179,485,092 on February 28 to \$179,847,383 on March 30. This is an increase of \$3,362,321 and wipes out more than two-thirds of the decrease in secured circulation within the past year. The net decrease since March 31, 1894, is reduced to \$1,724,008.

TRAIN ROBBERY RUN DOWN. One of the Rock Island Gang Killed—Positively Identified as the Bandit. HENNESSEY, Ok., April 6.—Soon after the train robbery on the Rock Island railroad Wednesday night near Dover, five United States deputy marshals, headed by Banks and Prater, started on the trail of the desperadoes. At 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon the officers came suddenly upon the gang. Part of them were asleep. The officers immediately opened fire, which was returned. The deputies jumped from their horses and used them as breastworks while the robbers tried to escape. Two of the horses of the outlaws were shot from under them and one man was killed, while another's leg was broken, but he managed to get to his horse. A third was badly hit, but he succeeded in getting away. The dead man was brought to Hennessey at 11 o'clock last night. He was positively identified as Dick Yeager, alias "Gyp Wyatt," on whose neck there was an aggregate reward of over \$5,000, including the amount offered yesterday for each of the robbers by the Rock Island.

THE WHITE METAL. The Silver Market Acting Rather Queerly—Japan Likely to Be a Steady Buyer of Silver. NEW YORK, April 6.—The market for silver bullion has acted queerly this week. Since the high water market of Monday, when the white metal reached 65 1/2, there has been a reactionary movement, carrying the price down steadily at the rate of 1 per cent a day. On small dealings yesterday silver sold down to 65 1/2, but subsequently rallied on the curb to 65 1/2.

While no definite advice has come to hand it is regarded as certain here that Japan will be a heavy buyer of silver in the next few months. The Japanese government, since the beginning of the war with China, has borrowed \$125,000,000 from the Japanese people. This loan was effected on a silver basis and Japan will, no doubt, repay in silver. Japan will need something like 200,000,000 ounces of silver to make settlements. The currency system of the empire being so thoroughly bimetallic, it is not believed that Japan has any idea of adopting the gold standard.

Two Graders Killed. TAMUQUAR, I. T., April 6.—In attempting to quell a row among a crew of graders at work on a new railroad being constructed through the Cherokee nation from Siloam Springs to Fort Smith, Ark., today, Sheriff Proctor shot and killed two of the rioters and was himself seriously wounded.

ZANESVILLE, O., April 7.—Four persons were killed outright and the fifth fatally injured in a wreck on the Bellaire, Zanesville and Cincinnati narrow gauge at a trestle five miles west of Summerfield.

ALTON, Ill., April 7.—A wreck on the Chicago and Alton cut off yesterday, killed four men and seriously injured fifteen others.

FOR SOUND MONEY.

A Movement for that End Started at Memphis, Tenn.—The Resolution Adopted.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., April 6.—A sound money movement was started here yesterday, which is likely to be far-reaching in its results. At a largely attended meeting of committees from the Cotton Merchants' and Lumbermen's exchanges, the Manufacturers' association and Young Men's Business league, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That a convention is hereby called to assemble at Memphis, Tenn., on Thursday, May 21, 1895, to be composed of delegates chosen by the people of the southern states who believe in the necessity of a sound and stable currency and better banking facilities in order to fully restore, and in the future maintain, prosperity among the people, and to this end the co-operation of all commercial, manufacturing, agricultural and industrial organizations, as well as the cooperation of all good citizens, is hereby earnestly invited.

The chairman of the meeting appointed a committee of fifteen to carry out the objects contemplated in calling the convention. The meeting was addressed by Congressman Patterson, of this district, who assured the meeting that Secretary of the Treasury Carlisle would visit the city in May for the purpose of discussing financial questions before the convention, and that the movement had the hearty indorsement of President Cleveland.

MORE RAILROAD BUILDING. The "Katy" Extension from Green Ridge to Holden All Arranged For. SEDALIA, Mo., April 6.—Chief Engineer Cary N. Wilson, of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas railway, arrived here from Holden this morning, having gone overland in a buggy from Green Ridge to Holden for the purpose of paying the farmers for the right of way on the new Kansas City extension of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas.

It is stated on good authority that work on the line will be begun within ten days and that the Southwest Construction Co., which built the Missouri, Kansas & Eastern, has the contract. It is predicted that the line will be completed within seventy days. Engineer Wilson is in Sedalia to-day to make final arrangements for erecting the new \$50,000 passenger depot.

MR. MANSUR IMPROVING. The Ex-Missouri Congressman Rallies from a Severe Heart Trouble. WASHINGTON, April 6.—Ex-Congressman Charles Mansur, whose condition yesterday afternoon was so grave that his life was despaired of, is this afternoon materially better. He has long suffered from an affection of the heart, but his present acute illness appears to have been due to an attack of the grip. He had been confined to the house in the convalescent stage of that disease, when ex-Congressman R. P. C. Wilson came to town recently and he imprudently went about town with him. Then came a relapse characterized in this latter stage by acute cardiac disturbances.

Poisoned by Wild Herbs. PERRY, Ok., April 6.—Mrs. J. W. Shields, whose husband owns a fine claim near Blackwell, gathered some lock on the prairie yesterday as she had done often to make greens for dinner. In the lot were some poisonous plants. In a few hours after the family had eaten all were sick and a doctor was summoned, but he could not relieve Mrs. Shields and her little daughter, both of whom died this morning.

Post Office at Richards Robbed. FOUR SCOTT, Kan., April 6.—The post office and general store of Robert Walls, at Richards, Mo., a few miles east of here, was burglarized some time Wednesday night. The safe was blown open, but the thieves only secured \$2 and a few stamps.

To Prevent Leaks. WASHINGTON, April 6.—Secretary Morton, in order to prevent the monthly grain reports of the agricultural department getting to speculators in advance, has made changes in forty-four of the state agencies and further measures will be taken to prevent leaks.

Michael Davitt to Visit Us. LONDON, April 6.—The Chronicle publishes an interview with Mr. Michael Davitt prior to his starting on a tour of the world. Mr. Davitt said that his plans embrace a visit to all the Australian colonies and a return to England by way of the United States.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEVITIES. The Chicago Post says the cattle men of the west are perfecting a strong organization to fight the beef combine.

Four blooded jacks belonging to E. M. Wyrick, of Green Ridge, were burned in a stock car at Parsons, Kan. Loss, \$3,500.

Edward Crossley, of England, has presented to the Lick observatory at San Jose, Cal., his great 3-foot reflecting telescope with its dome and apparatus.

Levi Binker and Mrs. Walters, residing near Galeata, Kan., have become insane as a result of the murder of the three Cox boys near that place Tuesday night.

The coroner's jury at Oklahoma City, Ok., investigating the death of Mrs. H. C. St. John, returned a verdict of first degree murder against her husband, who is now in jail.

Unknown persons made an attempt to wreck a passenger train on the Chicago & Northwestern near Brillion, Wis., by piling ties across the track, but the plot was discovered in time to prevent any damage.

A dispatch from Chicago states that a